(Agriculture) degree should be recoginsed on a par with those of medical, engineering and veterinary disciplines. Now that most of the States have switched over from 3 to 4 years B.Sc. (Agriculture) degree course, it should be possible to make out a strong case for parity of agricultural staff with other technical cadres;

(vii) Even where functional separation at State level becomes necessary and separate Departments/ Directorates of Horticulture, Social Forestry, Soil Conservation, etc., are set up, field level extension system for the farmers should be through a single line extension system only. It would be prohibitively expensive for parallel lines of extension to be established by each of these Departments;

(viii) There is need for direct recruitment at Class II and Class I level which should be through competitive examination;

(ix) There is need for a more decentralised system of writing annual assesment reports, constitution of departmental promotion committees, the powers to make appointments and transfers and other staff matters;

(x) To ensure a fair system of recruitment for non-gazetted staff, the recruitment should be on the basis of marks in the written qualifying examinations rather than interviews alone.

**Sanction of Oilseeds Projects**

3723. SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Rs. 170 crore project for oilseeds has been cleared by Government as appeared in the 'Economic Times' of 29th October, 1987 and if so, what are the details thereof;

(b) whether the National Oilseeds Development Project (NODP) will run on the lines of the NDDB; and

(c) whether vegetable oil work of the NDDB is proposed to be transferred to the NODP to ensure that both oilseeds and milk programme get maximum attention?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government of India has approved the implementation of National Oilseeds Development Project (NODP) in 180 selected districts of 17 oilseeds growing States with an outlay of Rs. 170 crores, of which the Central share is Rs. 100 crores during the Seventh Plan period. The project provides financial assistance to the States on various critical inputs like multiplication and supply of improved seeds, provision for plant protection measures, improved farm implements supply, organising large sized block demonstrations, etc.

(b) No. Sir The emphasis and approach of NODP and NDDB are different. They work complementarily to each other. NDDB's emphasis is on offering price incentive, market support system and processing through co-operation movement whereas technology transfer and inputs distribution are done through the States Extension System. On the other hand NODP is basically one of the schemes implemented through the State Agriculture Department with the emphasis on activities, such as, the technology transfer and inputs supply system While the underlying objective is to increase oilseeds production and productivity of the farmers, the emphasis is on different components

(c) The activities of NDDB on the oilseeds front have not in any way affected the milk production programmes undertaken by them and in view of the details provided at (b) above, no needs has been felt to transfer the vegetable oil work of NDDB to NODP.